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# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER

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OUR AUTHORIZED COLLECTORS ARE PROVIDED WITH WRITTEN AUTHORITY, NONE OTHERS ARE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE MONEY OR GIVE RECEIPT FOR US.

WE have just concluded arrangements with a number of European artists to furnish us each month with designs for decorative needlework, fan and tapestry painting and a variety of other useful pieces. The designs will be entirely new, strictly original, and accompanied with full explanations and directions will, undoubtedly, be found of great interest and value to our readers.

THE indiscriminating passion for pictures on the part of daily papers was accompanied by an amusing mistake a few weeks ago. A morning paper wishing to illustrate the industry of the President, represented him as sitting at his desk at 6 o'clock A. M. finishing a letter dated March 22, the date likewise of a daily calendar upon his desk, while through a window could be seen a crowd of workingmen with shovels and picks on their shoulder *going to their daily work*. As March 22 happened this year to be Sunday, the accessories of the scene were somewhat out of keeping.

Our suggestion in a recent number that the pictorial press and the daily press would shortly fill each others field would seem to be a very desirable consummation.

THE Bartholdi statue fiasco, so far as it concerns the city of New York, is a disgrace.

A foreign country presents us with a figure which is one of the most remarkable ever made, exceeding the great Colossus in size, we accept it, promise to erect a pedestal to receive it, and conclude the whole matter by shamefully neglecting it. Congress has been appealed to and declines to aid New York in doing what New York is perfectly well able to do for herself.

We have a number of worthy citizens who are possessed of sufficient means to contribute for dinners and receptions to mediocre foreign artists or actors who are not known in their own country until their names appear in the papers of ours. If a share of the money thus expended were to be diverted in the direction of getting the city out of a very deep hole it has certainly fallen into, the object would be a more creditable one and worthy to rank even with the memory of a *pâté de foie gras*.

It would be a very interesting incident if Kansas City or perhaps Oshkosh should volunteer to pay for the pedestal conditional upon its name being inscribed upon it.

THERE is one phase of decoration that should be discouraged by the voice of the people, and might very properly be made a subject of legisla-

tive action. It is decorating the national flag with advertisements of patent medicines or disreputable dime museums. There is no other country that would countenance such a violation of good taste and, it might almost be said, patriotism. Any man who considers it an advertisement for his business to hang out an American flag disfigured by a sign must be lost to all sense of appropriateness and decency.

IT would be an interesting bit of information if we could be told when the present stock of omnibuses will be exhausted and a new lot will be made of an improved, or at least a modern, type. The reason we assume that those now seen disfiguring our streets are relics of the early days of the city, is our unwillingness to believe that anyone would to-day deliberately build or in any way put together such lumbering and uncouth parades upon all that's comfortable, as the Broadway stage.

London and Paris have both passed so far beyond our miserable stage that the memory of them in those places must be a mere tradition. There are so many monstrosities in the way of buildings on our streets that it would seem reasonable if we asked to be protected from a further affliction of these rolling eye sores.

WE take pleasure in calling attention to the following communication:

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 23, 1885.

DEAR SIR:

I see a slight error in one of the papers in your last issue (March) which I would like you to correct. In the article "Terra Cotta in America," the Alderney cow head illustrated (which would be hardly appropriate on a city stable) was modeled for and placed upon a panel in The Alderney Dairies Depot, of which Mr. F. K. Ward is the proprietor, and I am the architect. I considered it, in combination with other forms, a peculiarly appropriate method of decorating this building, which is, unless I am misinformed, the largest in this country devoted entirely to dairy products making specialty of Alderney or Jersey cows products.

Yours truly,  
GLENN BROWN.

IN the April number of the *Art Amateur* occurs an illustration of an egg plate from the Hildesheim treasury and the accompanying descriptive article expresses the desire to see it reproduced by our silversmiths. We are somewhat surprised that our contemporary should be so far "behind the age," for a plate almost identical has been made for several years by the Meriden Britannia Company. With this latter piece, and in addition to the plate itself, there is an egg boiler rising from the center of the dish upon a tripod. The boiler, surmounted with an ornament of wreath and eagle, is egg-shaped and contains in the interior a movable frame with rings for holding the eggs. Beneath, a small double cup serves to contain the alcohol, and as the two sides of the cup differ in capacity so the eggs will be cooked hard or soft according to the cup used.

A PETITION is being circulated for signatures among the artists asking Congress to adopt some method for improving the artistic quality of our coinage. It is full time this subject received some attention, for there is not to be found anywhere a circulating medium less attractive, artistically, than our own, and if we think it necessary to import an English designer for our new coinage, we should in justice have something better than we have now.